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Yearbooks and Newsletters

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4-1981

## The Independent Volume X No. 4

Touro College Student Body

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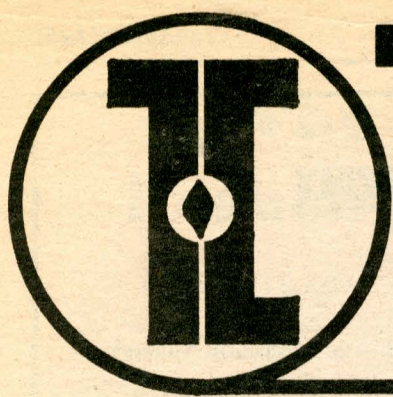
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# THE

VOLUME X NO. 4 TOURO COLLEGE APRIL 1981

# INDEPENDENT

## The Best Kept Secret in Touro

by Yitzhak Gold

An old institution and a new one are presently pooling their resources to begin a Master of Arts program in Judaic Studies. The old institution is the Herzliah Teacher's Seminary, while the relatively new one is Touro College.

Though the Herzliah Seminary has been centered in the 30 West 44th Street building for some years, many students have never heard of its existence. A little background information, therefore, seems appropriate.

In comparison with Touro, Herzliah is indeed an old school. During World War I a need for a Jewish teachers' seminary was deeply felt. In order to fill this need, Herzliah opened its doors. Originally, the Seminary's charter authorized it not only to grant M.A.'s, but doctorates as well.

Herzliah's reputation grew, and it was soon considered one of the world's finest schools of higher Jewish education. Unfortunately, the passing of years witnessed changes in the professional ambitions of students. Education was no

longer the "in" profession. A dearth of students and financial resources pushed the Seminary to the brink of disaster.

It was clear that in order for Herzliah to remain in existence something drastic had to be done. Suddenly, just as the cavalry would have in times gone by, Touro College came to the rescue, furnishing the Seminary with facilities, students, and badly-needed funds. The Teachers' Seminary, in turn, contributed its prestigious name and worthy reputation to the partnership.

Because of various student problems, Herzliah has chosen to concentrate its efforts on its M.A. program rather than its Ph.D. series. What distinguishes the Herzliah M.A. program from competing Jewish Studies programs is the Seminary's emphasis on modern Jewish history. Other programs have curriculums, on the other hand, which generally focus on ancient and medieval Jewish writings. The switch to modern history and philosophy will, it is hoped, make social workers and foundations such as the

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## '81 Class Graduation Set

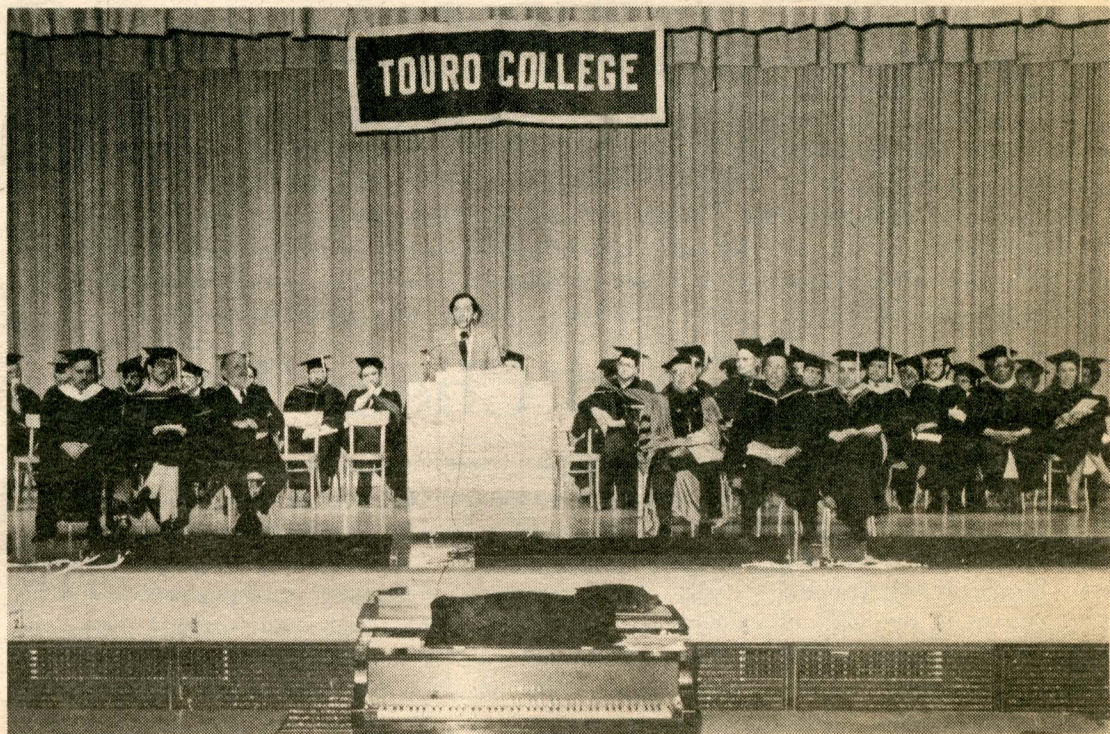


PHOTO CREDIT: JERRY NOALT

by Jay Hirsch

Graduation day is the highlight of the Touro student's career. It marks the end of four years of studies; sometimes difficult, sometimes enjoyable, always meaningful. On this day the student thinks back and realizes that he made the right choice when he decided to come to Touro.

This year's graduates will be honored on June 4th, at the Martin Luther King Jr. High School auditorium, on 65th Street, west of Amsterdam Avenue. This site was chosen for its superior lighting and audio-visual facilities, its great seating capacity (the hall seats nearly a thousand people), and its location in an attractive, easily accessible neighborhood.

Commencement exercises will take place twice on June

4th, once for the Liberal Arts and Sciences students and once for the students of the School of General Studies. Services for LAS graduates start at 5:00 P.M., and those for SGS students start at 7:30. Since graduating students will not take part in any rehearsals, they are expected to arrive at the auditorium at least one hour before exercises begin, to receive instructions.

Services for each graduation are expected to last about an hour. Dr. Lander will preside over both services and most members of the faculty are expected to be present. The exercises include speeches by the valedictorians and salutatorians of each of the classes, an awards ceremony, and the individual presentation of the diplomas to each of the

students. (Actually, the students will only be receiving diploma cases, the actual diplomas to be sent later, from Albany.) The graduates will be outfitted in custom-made caps and gowns, theirs to keep after the ceremony, as a souvenir of this great occasion. Eight non-graduating students are needed to act as ushers for each of the services; arrangements can be made by contacting the Dean of Students.

After graduation, the students will likely go in many different directions. Some will opt to continue their education, while others will attempt to move on into the dreaded world of full-time employment. Whatever they do, all will surely look back and fondly recall their Touro Experience.

## A Draining Experience!

by Shira Spiegelman

Oh No! This is it, April 1... I did say that I'd donate blood today, didn't I?... Maybe it's just an April Fool's joke and when I get there we'll all just have a big laugh... I hope... Well, that vehicle parked outside the Men's Division vaguely resembles a blood mobile... and all of those people wearing Red Cross buttons... they look pretty real... Fine, I'll have a seat - Why not?... They want my name and date of birth... no harm in that I guess... What? You want to know how much I weigh?... This is serious business, but at least I'm still in one piece, like un-perforated... Wait!! That's my little finger - OW!!... That really hurt, but at least

it's over... My blood is fine and you want me to do what?... In that, that camper outside?... Oh mention my recent bout with hepatitis?... No I don't think that I can be placated with red jelly beans... How did I ever get myself into this?... Oh, I recognize this bus - didn't they use it on the Partridge Family?... Now?... Oh well... What, no smoking section?... That's what you get with these no-frills package deals... I think the sudden loss of blood has gone to my head... Oh, you haven't done it yet?... Well, be sure to let me — Argghhhhh!!!!

To all of you who so generously gave of yourselves (literally!!) - THANK YOU!

## Message of a Rebbetzin

by Simeon Yazersky

Using the Vietnam War Protests as an example of what young people can do to change society, Rebbetzin Jungreis during her visit to Touro this month, declared that "it is the young people who must wake up our nation to its destiny."

Why does Rebbetzin Jungreis feel that the Jewish people must "wake up"? Because "despite the great interest in the Holocaust, our people are being taken to the ovens more so than

when the ovens were on."

Even though hundreds of millions of dollars are spent on Jewish kids going into cults, "Cults aren't that much of a problem—if there is a nation who cares." "When I am asked 'Why not concentrate on normal people?' I am very sad. How can someone think he can decide who shall live and who shall die?"

"One Miami Jewish leader had a daughter who was going to marry a cult leader. I took

her home, and kept her in my own daughter's room. She was on drugs, hallucinations, -a real mess. When we called others for help, they were too busy, or had no interest in dirt. Today, she is a woman who is happily married, with children, who teaches a Taharat Hamishpacha class in Miami. She would have died by now if we hadn't saved her. There are hundreds of thousands of these Jewish kids.

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## Visit With A Virtuoso

by Benjamin J. Seligson

As he sways from side to side, fiddle tucked neatly under the chin, one gets the impression that the Maestro is deeply involved in a sacred soulful prayer.

When Yehudi Menuhin was ten years old, a mere fifty-three year ago, he made his Carnegie Hall debut. The then-curious lad inquired of a fireman who was present there as to the purpose of the big axe on the wall. The fireman replied that it was used on performers who displeased the demanding public.

Menuhin never displeased a demanding public.

Recently, the Maestro has overcome the untimely death of

his sister, Hephzibah, who accompanied his professional career. Since this tragic event, Menuhin plays to the piano accompaniment of Paul Coker, of whom Menuhin declared in a recent New York Times interview, "... he brings out the best in me ..."

Coker and Menuhin displayed their dual excellence in their first recital together at Carnegie Hall in February. Incidentally, it was the British pianist's first appearance at Carnegie Hall.

In March of this year, Menuhin appeared as a guest artist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra playing a

violin concerto at Carnegie. The music was written by a contemporary composer named Bela Bartok, who's 100th birthday falls out this year.

Lastly, the students that appreciate the fine arts should note that performances at the Main hall in Carnegie Hall usually cost no more than \$12.50 for orchestra seats and balcony seats can normally be purchased for \$6 a ticket. There is a student fee of \$2.50 for performances at the Carnegie Recital Hall. Consult New York-Cue magazine for scheduled performances. You must present your student I.D. card at the box office.

## Bringing Good Cheer To All

by Deborah Wittenstein

On Sunday, March 22, a group of Touro women went to the Katharine Engle Center for Older People to entertain the senior citizens in the spirit of Purim. Abby Aronson, Debra Gewirtz, Shira Spiegelman, and myself dressed as clowns, and Rina Prince, Devora Radinsky, and Tamar Spiegelman, dressed as Touro students, brought belated mishloach manot. We faked our way through songs like Hava Nagila, Sholom Chavarim, and Tzadik Katamar which the adults enjoyed immensely. We danced the Hora and even succeeded in getting our audience to participate. The

experience was very rewarding and we are planning similar visits to the Lincoln Square Home For the Aged.

Our next stop was the children's ward at Sloan-Kettering Hospital after a rather humorous trip through New York. The reactions to the oddly-dressed characters were rather diverse and bizarre; some smiled normally, while others quite effectively (and some not so effectively) merely attempted to ignore us. I will agree that we could have passed for normal Fiorucci customers; however, people in less crazy cities may have reacted strongly to a gang of wierdos who looked like they collided with a

jar of paint. Be that as it may, we put on a pantomime and a tour-of-the-world-in-song for the children at Sloan-Kettering (most of whom turned out to be Irish: we couldn't find any Jewish children). I hope we brought a few laughs to the patients on the fifth floor, and not just to the nurses. I can also say that if I had any doubts about giving blood on April 1, I don't have them now; these people need our blood; we got quite an education Sunday.

In closing, I would like to commend the girls for putting down their notebooks and telephones, and coming through for a worthy cause.

## Starting To Hear Voices, You Say?

by Jafa Ancselovits

It was during class when I was awoken by the sound of a voice.

Voice: "Well, Layna, what do you think of Touro?"

Layna: "Great!"

Voice: "Layna, this is me, Gerver, calling you. What do you think of Touro?"

Layna: "Oh, Gerver, it's you. Well, to tell you the truth—eh."

Gerver: "Poor Layna, not too happy with the W.D."

L: "Of the new T.U."

G: "Okay Layna, what's bothering you?"

L: "Well, first of all I'm confused. Sometimes I feel uprooted but then some people, I hear, are getting a grass roots education."

G: "Well, I will admit that that can befuddle your brain."

L: "I'm tired of being the nomadic Jew, Gerver. Every time it seems as though we've settled down at last, someone decrees that we have to move

again. You know, Gerver, I'm beginning to feel like Abraham. Sometimes I think I hear G-d's command to follow blindly wherever He may lead but then I always recognize it as Touro's by one simple clue. G-d knew where he was leading. Touro does not.

G: "It is a Jewish college, Layna. L: "But not a 'yeshiva' one. I know."

G: "There's nothing to worry about. Matters are in the able hands of the Touro Administration."

L: "Maybe, but I feel as shaky as the W.D. library floor, which brings up another point."

G: "I'm listening."

L: "I'm so very sick and tired of sitting at desks and getting seat sores."

G: "Well, then, that's what a lounge is for!"

L: "What lounge?"

G: "The one on the third floor, in that great big room with a piano ..."

L: "... school chairs, committees meeting, and phantom machines!"

G: "Well, those ..."

L: "I know, were spirited upstairs to the office and have since passed on. Other things seemed to have passed on, too, such as the D.L.S. book and service. The new wave is Socializing for Credit which seems to have increased its enrollment quite a bit this year."

G: "What's so bad about that?"

L: "Well, you know."

G: "Look Layna, things are going to get better—soon."

L: "Summer is on its way."

G: "Trust me and trust Touro—trust me like you would trust the United States President. That should make things easy. Well, bye now!"

L: "But ... Now I'm really worried."

I heard his voice no more and class had ended, so I rushed home to see if the Blackstone still was standing.

## THE INDEPENDENT

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The official publication of the Touro College Student Body. All editorials represent the majority opinion of the editorial board as expressed by one of its members unless signed.

## TO THE EDITORS A Sincere Note Of Sincere Thanks

Dear Editors:

I had already received notes of condolence upon the recent passing of the most wonderful man, my husband, from the Deans of Touro, but your article touched me so much more. After all, he felt so close to students and, indeed, became a better Jew for his contacts with the students.

His hunger of Judaism was kindled by his harrowing experiences in Russia as a child. As a result of this hunger, he taught himself to read and understand Hebrew, using only a dic-

tionary as his guide.

I say Kaddish for him twice a day and, G-d willing, shall continue to do so. My husband and I knew one another for over 63 years, and were married for 60 years. We went to evening college together, studied together, and went through life together.

I now extend to you the thought that was always uppermost in the mind of my husband, that G-d grant all your hopes and wishes.

Most sincerely,  
Rose Glassman

## Israel Study/Work Program Set For This Summer

NEW YORK—A special six-month study/work program for American and Canadian Jewish engineering students will begin July 1, 1981, in Israel, it was announced this week by the Israel Aliyah Center.

The program, which is being offered by numerous Israeli industries in cooperation with the Jewish Agency, is open to undergraduates majoring in industrial, mechanical, and aeronautical engineering, computer sciences or electronics. Among major Israel firms participating in the program include Israeli Aircraft Industries and Iscar Ltd. of Nahariya.

The program provides students with work experience in Israeli industries, exposes them to Israeli life and offers

them college credit through the Cooperative Education System in the U.S.

Other elements of the program include a two-week intensive Ulpan (Hebrew language course), trips throughout Israel and seminars on Jewish and Israeli topics. Specific job placements are based on candidates' transcripts, resume and past experience.

Preliminary interviews for the Engineering Program are being conducted in Israel Aliyah Centers across North America; individual companies are responsible for screening participants for job placements.

"Experience has shown that students become well integrated into the companies and make good friends among the

continued on page 8

Sold Out At The Stands?  
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## Why Is This Pesach Different?

by Shelley Ettinger

This year Erev Pesach occurs on Shabbos. For this reason the procedures of Erev Pesach are somewhat different. Below is a list of some of the changes:

1. Taanit B'chorim (Fast of the First Borns) will take place on Thursday, April 16.

2. Bedikat Chometz (the search for Chometz) takes place on Thursday, April 16 as well. The bracha of Al Biur Chometz is recited before the bedika and any Chometz that is not found during the bedika is annulled through the pronouncement of Kol Chamira following the conclusion of the search.

3. The burning of the Chometz is performed on Friday, April 17. The burning must take place before the expiration of the first five hours of the day. (Kol Chamira is not recited at this time for chometz can be consumed until early Shabbos morning.) In case Chometz is not burned at this time it may be burned at any time prior to the beginning of Shabbos. (Same applies to the selling of the Chometz.)

4. The document used for the selling of the Chometz should be dated the 13th of Nisan, NOT the 14th of Nisan, Chometz that will be eaten on Friday and on Shabbos should be excluded from the sale.

5. Preparations for the Seder

(i.e. making the Charoses) should be completed before Shabbos.

6. Challah or bread should be eaten as part of the Shabbos meals. However, aside from Challah and bread, no other foods containing flour should be prepared for this Shabbos.

7. Matza should not be eaten either on Friday evening or on Shabbos.

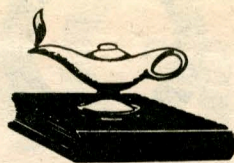
8. Chometz may be eaten on Shabbos morning prior to the expiration of the first four hours of the day.

9. It is proper procedure to eat two meals on Shabbos morning during the time when Chometz may be eaten. (By doing this the Mitzva of Sholosh Se'udos is fulfilled.) A certain period must elapse between the two meals. If it is not possible to have second meal during the prescribed time, Sholosh Se'udos may take place after noon in the form of fruit, meat, or fish. (We must be careful not to eat too much at Sholosh Se'udos for we must eat tons of Matza at the Seder with appetite.)

10. After all Chometz has been disposed of Kol Chamira is recited as on every Erev Pesach.

This is only a partial list of the departures from normal procedures. If any other questions arise do not hesitate to call your local Rabbi. Have a Happy and a Healthy!!

### Yossi's Lamp



## A Koch Conference—Hizzoner Speaks Out

By Joseph Lampert

In an effort to strengthen communication links between the Office of Mayor and New York college students, Mayor Edward I. Koch conducted a City Hall news conference on April 2, 1981, expressly for the college press. As anyone who is even passingly familiar with this mayor's style would expect, it was quite a lively conference, as Mayor Koch was characteristically outspoken and engagingly candid.

Since many of the topics covered may be of interest to Touro students, an account of the major questions and answers follows. It should be noted, however, that in order to ensure brevity (or at least the semblance thereof), all questions and answers have been paraphrased, except where quotation marks are used to indicate verbatim statements.

Q. Why do you believe that you are such a popular mayor, despite severe reductions in city services?

A. Firstly, the people of this city "are not imbeciles." Anyone can see that cutbacks have been necessary to reach fiscal stability and a balanced budget which New York City statutes now require. Of course it's nicer to have the 32,000 cops of a few years back than the 22,000 of today—but, if fringes are included, each police officer makes \$37,000 per annum. New Yorkers realize that I deliver the best services with the dollars available, the "biggest bang for the buck."

Q. What do you think of organ donations being made by the coroner's office, despite lack of consent by the deceased (a proposal currently being circulated)?

A. I am strongly against such a policy. It is in blatant violation of the religious beliefs of many orthodox individuals—both Orthodox Jews as well as Orthodox Christians. "After 120 years, G-d willing, should I have to go, I plan on donating vital organs—but that's a personal decision, and consent remains necessary."

Q. Do you believe it is a flaw in American character or a lack of judicial restraints which led to the recent assassination attempt on the President?

A. I think it quite clear that neither is the case. "A pathological, sick creature—and I think all of you here will agree that's an accurate description of that madman—seeking to play out his fantasies, cannot be stopped." I happen to be in favor of gun control, but I am very sure that even strict controls could never prevent such an attack from recurring. What controls *can* do, is make it more difficult for a shooting to occur due to a momentary lapse in judgement, a "fit-of-anger killing."

Q. While on the topics of guns, do you feel pleased with the way the city's gun law is working out?

A. Not at all. I began the drive a short while ago to enact a law similar to that of Massachusetts,

with a mandatory 1 year sentence for anyone convicted of carrying an illegal handgun. In spite of much ridicule, I did succeed—but the State Legislature added 2 provisos: the sentence can be reduced if "mitigating circumstances" are found, or if the individual had no record for the previous 5 years. Naturally, these exceptions have been flagrantly abused and presently 30% of those convicted get less than one year, many merely receive probation. Judges are not enforcing the exceptions to the law as they were meant to be enforced—"the law is not, contrary to what my commercials may say, the toughest gun law in the country."

Q. Don't you feel that your frequent criticisms of the N.Y.C. judicial system are an infringement of the separation of powers between the executive and judicial branches of government?

A. "Do you actually believe that? I don't. Did you know that I am technically titled 'Magistrate' of this city—that, until Fiorello La Guardia, and including 'The Little Flower,' mayors had the right to try cases in N.Y.C.?" No, I believe I have a duty to speak out, of course only after the specific case in question has been duly disposed of, against the "foolish" acts of some judges. "Listen, I get criticism all the time, from a thousand different sources, why shouldn't I give a

*continued on page 8*

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# TOURO CE

## Dining Can Be A True Pleasure

As its name indicates, La Difference affords the discerning diner a welcome change of pace from the world of kosher corn beef, stuffed cabbage, pizza, falafel, etc., so common to the New York dining scene. Located in the posh Roosevelt Hotel, the restaurant's decor is equally elegant. The romantic circular sunken dining room is dimly lit and decorated in a warm, regal red. A splendid stained glass window in the center of the dining area forms the ceiling over a refreshing fountain of sparkling water. Crushed crimson velvet wallpaper and numerous mirrors adorn the walls.

Perhaps La Difference's most outstanding feature is the phenomenal table service. Dining out on a weeknight, the service we received was unbelievably quick and efficient. Our water goblets were filled over and over again throughout the meal and the moment I put my soup spoon or salad fork down the corresponding dish was instantly removed. The French waiter, with his impeccable French accent, proved extremely helpful and courteous and assisted us in choosing a royal feast.

I began the multi-course meal with the quiche Lorraine—a light custard pie filled with morsels of beef, tomatoes, greenpeppers, mushrooms and onions in a flakey crust. My dining partner for the evening enjoyed the crepe maison au poulet which will titillate even the most overworked taste buds and is a must to any La Difference dinner. The tender crepe was stuffed with creamed chicken and mushrooms, covered with a creamy butter type sauce and garnished with parsley. Les potages, soup, followed. I selected potage jardiniere, a mildly flavored

fresh garden vegetable soup loaded with diced vegetables. My dinner companion decided upon soup a l'oignon-onion soup served with several large crunchy croutons which greatly enhanced the broth's flavor. For my next course, I opted for a conventional lettuce wedge with tomato slices whereas my dining partner elected saladé mimosa which consisted of crisp garden greens garnished with shredded egg, toasted croutons and mayonnaise dressing.

Pour le diner j'ai choisi—excuse moi beware lest the authentic French atmosphere of La Difference overpower the unsuspecting diner. For my entree I selected canard a l'orange flambe—a tantalizing crispy roasted duckling with a savory sauce. When the waiter arrived, the duck was set to orange and blue flames with cointreau and then placed upon a bed of rice alongside half a peach and green beans with almond slivers. My dinner companion ordered filet mignon—a generous portion of meat with an exquisite flavor. Though I could scarcely think of attempting another course, I bravely began the mousse au chocolat, chosen from among such glorious desserts as bananes flambees and crepes suzette. The mousse, which I greatly preferred to my dining partner's strawberry short cake, arrived in a small crystal desert glass filled with a smooth delicate chocolate mixture and topped with parve whipped cream. We concluded the dinner with cafe Italien—hot coffee with a smooth amaretto and pousse cafe—hot coffee accompanied with a tall stemmed glass with varied layers of liqueur.

Leaving the elegant atmosphere of La Difference behind and stepping out into

*continued on page 8*

## Israeli Dance Festival Sparkles



by Simeon Yazersky

With adrenalin flowing, hearts beating, and butterflies floating, the dancers took to the stage for the 30th annual Israeli Folk Dance Festival with such enthusiasm, that upon completion the audience was dancing in the streets... literally, as Grace Plaza filled to capacity.

The show was more than a simple exhibition of Israeli dance—it was a deeply rooted, soul-based expression of a heritage; a spiritual union between New York and Jerusalem.

The dances and songs were geared to depictions of Jewish history.

The first dance was a rhythmic, nomadic, dance, from a time when the Hebrews were wanderers, and were still forming a culture and a nation. Then the show moved in different directions; Yemenite-Arabic dancing, with its characteristic style and music, and Eastern European dancing, which is sometimes boring because of its familiarity. As is usual with these Festivals, there was a marriage theme—but what followed was absolutely brilliant.

Developed in narration, dance, and music, the bride's friends join the Bilu movement

(a 19th Century Zionist group) and, with idealistic enthusiasm, move to a Kibbutz. Although she dances with them, and wants to go to Israel, she could go "only as a woman who had left her husband," and she returns to dance at his side. The contrasting music, costumes, and dancing highlight this conflict, and make it so beautiful and moving that it reduced the entire audience to tears.

The dancing then moved into the wandering/dispersing path characteristic of Jewish history. Some immigrants settled in the Lower East Side; the stage was incredibly complete with shmatas, sweat shops, pushcarts, pickles, and even a drunk.

Then—a quantum leap into World War II Europe, where, in jarring contrast to the rest of the Festival, black and gray figures conjured up images of the Holocaust.

The show then returned to the main topic, the spirit and vigor of Israel. With the planting of trees, blooming deserts, and celebrations of Lag B'omer, the language, the land, and Jerusalem, the dancers succeeded in capturing the pulse of Israeli folk dance.

One dance which was highly untraditional but very enjoyable was "Aleph-Bet". Set to

an Israeli "A is for apple" type of song, the dancers formed themselves into the letters of the Hebrew Alphabet, which the teacher pointed out on the board.

In the background, there were projection screens, with constantly changing pictures. They provided the background for each dance, while the orchestra and festival choirs provided the atmosphere. There was an occasional rough edge, but that only reminded the audience that these dancers weren't professionals, but dancing troupes of different Zionist youth groups.

More important than the dancing itself, was the message it projected—a vibrant feeling given by the dancers of their will and belief in Aliyah, the spiritual physical return to the State of Israel—and the will to make sacrifices just as our ancestors sacrificed throughout history in the hope of returning.

The theme of the Festival, as in past years, was that no matter how divergent our cultures, backgrounds, or Messianic beliefs, whether socialistic or democratic, atheistic or religious, Satmar or Belz, there is one binding center, Israel, through the song and dance in the heart of every Jew. The homeland.

**WELCOME BACK,  
DEAN GOLDSCHMIDT  
WE MISSED YOU!!!**

**Yom Hashoah Presentation  
Rabbi Joseph Spivak—— April 30  
Men's Div., 8th Floor, 4:45**

**Taharath Hamishpachah  
Rabbi Yaakov Siegel—— May 5  
Men's Div., 8th Floor,  
Time To Be Announced**



# ENTER STAGE



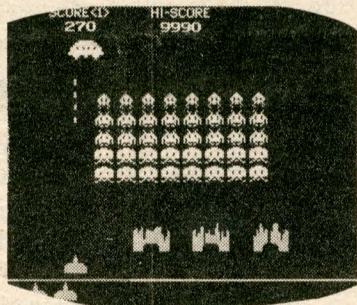
## A Trip To Video Paradise

by Jay Hirsch

Quick, what makes strange noises, costs a quarter, and is a lot of fun? No, besides that. Why, it's the new electronic games; those mechanical bandits that can rob you of all your loose change in a matter of minutes. Now, especially, with all the new electronic advancements, you can find yourself blowing up enemy spaceships, blasting your way out of a robot-infested room, or shooting down giant, shrieking birds. And all for only 25 cents (that is, as long as we keep boycotting machines of the 50 cents variety).

Video games can be found almost anyplace where people gather, and are often the reason why people are gathering there. Many arcades are devoted solely to the pursuit of this activity, and often, on busy days, you may have to wait in line in order to play your favorite game. No lines, though, for you pinball addicts; most of these machines lie idly by, their lights flashing, but no one playing. But there is no rest for the video games. They are constantly gulping down quarters, all day long.

With this vast jungle of video pleasures, it is difficult to decide in just which one to invest your two bits. And that's why I'm here. Yes, after hours of arduous research and many, many quarters, I am now able to provide this small guide to the current, most popular video games. So, now everyone, take quarter in hand and let's escape reality, at least for a few minutes.



**Space Invaders:** This is actually the game that started the current video craze. Its format has been copied numerous times. There are three buttons on the control panel: one moves your rocket towards the right, one towards the left, and one is the firing button. The object of the game is to shoot down the oddly shaped creatures that are moving towards you, shooting at you while you're shooting back. In this game, as in most others, if you are hit three times, you lose. Many of these games will give you a bonus rocket as you pass a thousand. Shooting down the flying saucers that move across the top of the screen will greatly increase your score, but may also lead to your getting hit by the other aliens. After a short while, it is possible to compile high scores on this video machine.

**Carnival:** This game is more down to earth. Once again, you have the three basic buttons, as in Space Invaders. But in Carnival, you are in control of a small rifle, and, instead of space creatures, you are shooting at ducks, owls, pipes, and other shooting gallery targets. You start with 25 bullets and keep playing till they run out, and received more bullets by hitting the appropriate targets. But remember, you lose bullets by

hitting those targets with a minus sign, and a duck that reaches the bottom of the screen "eats" ten bullets.



**Asteroids:** This is one of the most popular, and one of the toughest, games on the video market. You are in control of a small spaceship flying through gravity-less space. All of a sudden, a plethora of asteroids, of all shapes and sizes, are drifting around you. Your mission is to destroy them all before they fly into your ship three times, ending the game. The control buttons make the ship rotate right or left, thrust forward, disappear into hyperspace (for then you're in deep trouble) and fire. An unskilled player will usually last about thirty seconds at this game.

**Galaxians:** A personal favorite, this game is similar to Space Invaders except that here, small convoys of spaceships constantly leave the rest of the pack and come flying directly at you. Get hit 3 times and you lose, but many versions do give a bonus ship at either 5,000 or 7,000.

**Berzerk:** In this game, you are in control of a being that actually resembles a human. He is in an uncomplicated maze which is chock-full of evil robots. Shoot them all down and you are

*continued on page 6*

## Bonnie & Clyde, Where Are You?

by Jay Hirsch and Yitzchak Gold

Yitz: You wanna start?

Jay: No, you.

Y: Okay, "Thief", with James Caan, at 5 dollars was a real ripoff.

J: Well, it certainly wasn't a steal.

Y: Actually, it was kind of like a subway ride. Plenty of violence, gore, and loud music. But for 60 cents, I'd definitely prefer the movie.

J: But enough of this small talk. "Thief" is a gritty movie starring James Caan as Frank, a professional safe cracker.

Y: Very professional.

J: According to the story, he picked up all his know-how from an aging con, Okla, during an 11 year prison stay.

Y: I wonder how Okla (Willie Nelson) got hold of all that sophisticated safe cracking equipment in prison with which to teach Frank.

J: Ah, details.

Y: James Belushi, another co-star, did a credible job portraying Frank's best friend and accomplice. He showed a lot of his more famous brother's traits, especially around the mid-section.

J: Tuesday Weld plays Frank's romantic interest, Jessie. She acts well, even though she has to follow the movie's inane story line.

Y: Yeah, it sure was corny that she accepts Frank's

marriage proposal after he drags her through half of Chicago, by her hair.

J: Chicago is presented in an interesting way. Most of the scenes are at night with the slick city streets reflecting the glaring neon lights. The music is also worth mentioning. It is played by Tangerine Dream, whose electronic sounds are appropriately loud and exciting. Unfortunately, the music often does not reflect the action on the screen, like the time Frank casually orders a beer in a neighborhood bar, when a thundering nyeeeeeeowwww shakes the theater.

Y: The plot is far from original. Frank wants to make one big "score" before he retires to a normal life. Unfortunately, he joins up with a ruthless Mafia-type organization, which doesn't give him his fair share of the take and won't let him retire. Frank retaliates in the only way he knows how which leads to a bloody finale.

The movie shows that there is no honesty among thieves. The police, too, are portrayed as brutal, sinister characters, showing that there isn't much honesty among honest people, either.

J: The film ends with Frank blasting many holes into his enemies (almost as many holes as those in the plot). All in all, you'll do okay if you don't catch this "Thief".

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## Group Assists S. Bronx Jews

By Brenda Lukeman, Ph.D

In the middle of the rubble and heap of broken glass, tin cans, burnt-out buildings and burnt-out hearts, the old Jewish poor live in the Bronx. There they remain, cold, forgotten and deserted not only by their own young, but by the Jewish community at large.

There are no shuls they can attend in their neighborhoods. Most of them have been burnt-out, vandalized, or else there simply isn't any heat or plumbing. There is usually not a minyan to say kaddish when one or another of them quietly dies. It's not a pretty sight to go

only in the South Bronx, but in Harlem, Brownsville, anywhere the elderly poor remain.

"Why are you doing this, Gary?"

"Who will if I don't?" he replies.

One can easily see that these individuals have grown to love Gary and his group very much, to wait all week for the Sunday visits and to seeing the shul rebuilt once again.

"It's almost like a miracle," one of the residents said to me.

This year Gary and his group built a Sukkha for Succos. "It got stolen," Gary reported, but we will build it again and again.



Dr. Benjamin Begin (son of the Israeli Prime Minister) with Oscar Messer, head of the Touro College NAJP

there. It's not easy to look at the drawn, haunted faces.

It's also not easy to understand the courage and strength of a young man, Mr. Gary Moskowitz, who on his own, has formed a volunteer army of young people (many of whom like himself are skilled in karate) to go weekly into these areas and search for the elderly people, take them out of their isolated apartments and into neighborhood shuls and meeting places. This group is now fixing up these places for the old to attend.

This young, entirely volunteer group of individuals called the National Association for the Jewish Poor have entered several old and deserted synagogues in the South Bronx which they are now in the process of repairing and reclaiming for the elderly residents of the area. Every Sunday they come in with food, songs, services, programs, young people and life. They come bringing hope and light back to these old, lonely individuals.

"We now have minyans going in two shuls where there were none before," Gary happily says. Somehow he has taken this situation very personally, very deeply to heart. He is also organizing similar efforts and programs not

"All Jews have a right and a need to celebrate their holidays."

Inside the cold shuls the warmth of the prayers and the good feelings radiate out all by themselves. People come wrapped up extra warm, just to hear the "davening" again, just to be together.

During Chanukah we kindle the lights to remind us of many things Judaism is a path of remembering. We are commanded to remember our past, our slavery, exile, our deliverance. We are commanded to honor our parents. We are commanded to stretch out our hearts and our minds back into the generations, even when the past looks bleak and even when it is much easier to forget, to run away into disconnection.

This group of young people, who are dedicated to remembering, need many things as well as money. They need food for the elderly, people to visit, hands to help paint and rebuild the old shuls. They need speakers and singers. They need understanding.

During this time of Passover it may be more incumbent upon us than ever to now allow our own light and warmth to shine forth unreservedly into all of the kinds of darkness that surround us.

## Campus Militarism On Rise

The Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors, the nation's largest draft and military counseling agency, warns that the influence of the military in our schools is growing at epidemic proportions.

Larry Spears, Director of CCCO's Pre-Enlistment Counseling Program, says, "The last few years have seen tremendous growth of militarism in this country, and much of it has been centered in the high schools and colleges."

According to Spears, the military now lures students through many different programs, including:

—The Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) and Junior ROTC. The college ROTC and high school JROTC programs now exist in nearly 2,000 schools. The courses are taught by military personnel and are often of questionable academic value. They also encourage values which are at odds with the goals of academic learning. And the programs cost the American public millions of dollars each year.

—The Delayed Entry Program. The DEP encourages students to sign the enlistment contract up to one year before starting basic training. Once

student enlistees sign the contract, they are bound by it, and discharges under the DEP are rarely granted. Each year, hundreds of thousands of young people who are uncertain about what to do sign up under the DEP. Once students enlist in DEP they are given bonuses for recruiting other students, thus becoming a sort of undercover recruiting force. However, if a student changes his or her mind a few months later because of a job offer, school or vocational training possibilities, or marriage plans, it is usually too late to get out of the military unless counseling is sought through groups such as CCCO.

"Military recruiters are salesmen," comments Spears. "They have a quota to meet, superiors to please and they certainly will not take the time to explain the possible problems to a potential recruit. Students who are considering joining the armed forces should have the benefit of seeing both sides of the story before enlisting."

"Counselors and teachers who are in a position to give advice on enlistment should be aware of the loopholes in the enlistment contract which put the enlistee at a distinct

disadvantage, and in fact, offer very few guarantees," says Spears. "They should be aware of the problems many enlistees face. For example, verbal promises are often made by recruiters. If the military should not come through with what the recruiter promised, the enlistee has no legal recourse."

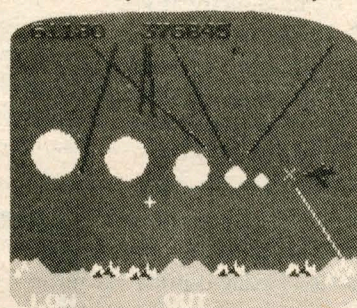
"Another problem encountered by enlistees is the fact that many important sounding job titles (such as combat engineer) turn out to be dull, meaningless jobs with no application to civilian positions. Many military jobs have no civilian counterpart, and thus the training is often useless after you get out of the military."

Additional information on ASVAB, JROTC, ROTC, DEP, military recruitment, and other aspects of militarism in education may be obtained by writing to: The Pre-Enlistment Counseling Program, CCCO, 2208 South St., Phila., PA 19146.

CCCO was founded in 1948 as the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors, and is a national, non-profit agency counseling young Americans facing the prospect of military service, or those already in the military.

### Games, Games, Games, continued from page 5

presented with a new set of robots that can shoot back. Remember, touch the walls and you are "zapped." And beware of "Otto", the smiling, bouncing ball that is your worst enemy.



*Missile Command:* This game is very different from most of the other machines. It is also very difficult. Your mission here is to

protect three cities, each with its own shooting base. You line up your shots with a semi-inserted, rotating ball in the control panel. There is also a different firing button for each city. When the cities are destroyed, you lose.

*Battle Zone:* This is a futuristic tank battle. You never see your tank, but are constantly looking out of it, surveying the battleground. The radar in the corner tells you where the enemy is. (Even if you can't read the radar, the screen also displays in words where the enemy is.) By maneuvering the two control sticks, you make your tank advance, retreat, and

move right or left. Line up the enemy and shoot quickly, before he can turn around and shoot you.

*Stratovox:* This game is memorable because it speaks back to you. You shoot at flying saucers that are also shooting back. In this game, if they get by you, they kidnap one of your men. Get him back and the machine will say "good shot!" Do really well and the machine awards you bonus points while constantly repeating "lucky, lucky, lucky." It is a very enjoyable game and, like the others, just about the best thing you can do with a quarter, today.

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## From The Dean

My purpose in this column is to offer some practical advice to those of you who are planning to apply for admission to law school. Your chances for acceptance can be maximized and the entire process can be rendered less nerve-wracking if you follow a few simple rules.

Timing is of the essence and you should aim to complete all the steps required for your application by December. The first step is to register for the LSAT (Law School Admission Test) and the LSDAS (Law School Data Assembly Service), which you can do on the same form. The best date for taking the LSAT is in June, at the end of the junior year in college. You will receive your scores by August, leaving you enough time to re-register for the October exam, to reconsider your career goals, or to finalize a realistic law school selection list. Familiarize yourself in advance with the type of questions and the full-length test found in the information bulletin that is in your LSAT registration packet. The 1981-1982 packets are already available in my office.

The second step is to ask the Registrar to forward your transcript to the Law School Data Assembly Service. This should be done in September or October. The Law School Data Assembly Service will then standardize your transcript and send it to the law schools of your choice. An original

transcript must be submitted for every undergraduate institution that you have attended. If your program includes work at more than one college, or yeshivah/seminary credits, you must contact each of these schools. The LSDAS will not prepare a standardized transcript until they have received all your transcripts and have an LSAT score for you.

Third, you should develop a list of possible schools. This too should be done in September. Your best source of information in drawing up the list is the *1980-1981 Pre-Law Handbook*. The score grids give a good overview of the calibre of students applying to each school. The handbook has such grids (a combination of GPA and LSAT scores) for almost every school. Remember, however, that the data may overstate a bit the difficulty of getting into school X or Y, since they are based on applicants accepted and not applicants who actually matriculated (registered) at the particular law school. Another good source of information is Sally Goldfarb, *Inside the Law Schools 1980-81*. Use post cards to request catalogues and application forms from all schools in which you are interested.

You will devote such time in October/November to working on your applications. Be neat and methodical in filling out these forms. Your essay, a

*continued on page 8*

## Getting Involved In Student Gov't.

by Sherry Gurvitz

Wednesday, April 8, 1981 was a special day for the Jewish people. This special day only occurs once every 28 years. On this day we recite Birchah HaChammah, blessing Hashem for his creation.

Life is not an "accident." The world was created with a divine purpose and plan, and every man was created with a specific mission. Hashem did not create the world and then just sit by on the sidelines and observe. He continues to infuse all creations with life.

Miracles occur every day even though we don't notice them. Perhaps because we are so accustomed to seeing them occur, therefore, we often take them for granted. Some perfect examples are: the fact that a tiny seed grows into an enormous tree which can provide us with the oxygen necessary to breathe; and life couldn't possibly exist if the sun were to come a fraction too

close to the earth or even shift slightly too far away. Because we tend to take these miracles for granted, our sages have instructed us to recite Birchah HaChammah every 28 years on the day when the earth returns to its original position in relationship to the sun, as it was when Hashem created the earth. We are declaring that life could not go on without our Creator. We express our gratitude to Hashem for sustaining us and pray that we may live a good and purposeful life.

There are many ways to live a good purposeful life. For some it may be: helping a child with Multiple Sclerosis (patterning), learning in a Yeshiva, or even becoming a student leader. I would like to expound on being a student leader. You may not be aware that Student Gov't. elections are just around the corner. Anyone aspiring to run for office should contact me before leaving for Pesach

vacation. There are certain requirements which you must meet before running for office, such as having a certain class standing. The offices are: President, Vice-President of Organization, Vice-President of Programming, Secretary, and Treasurer. Also, this year two positions which are usually selected by the Board will be elected by the Student Body—Chairperson of the Jewish Affairs Committee and Chairperson of the Israel Committee. If you are interested in becoming involved in any other form of Student Government of *The Independent* please contact any officer on the existing Board.

Elections will be held on May 13 and on May 14. All petitions must be received no later than May 6. Those aspiring for offices will give their platforms at a luncheon on May 6. G-d willing, the new Board will be installed at the farewell dinner at LaDifference on May 21.

## A Thought On Curbing Guns

By Paula L. Shostack

On March 30, 1981, our nation's leader, Ronald Reagan, almost lost his life to the bullet of a .22 calibre handgun, more commonly known as a Saturday Night Special. Although this attempted assassination on the President's life was frightening and tragic, that was not the real tragedy. On the same day in Boston, a 14-year old was shot by a friend with a handgun after having seen the assassination attempt on television. A two-year old girl, Jessica was killed with a handgun at a target practice. The list goes on, totalling approximately fifty deaths by handguns on only that Monday. There is the tragedy!

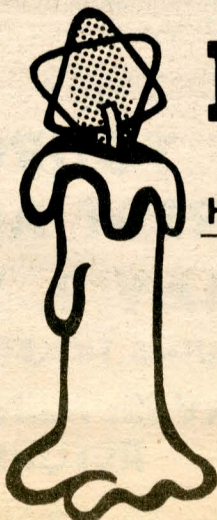
With violence rampant everywhere, our country desperately needs an effective handgun law. Opponents to

gun control argue that in recent years, handgun murders, now accounting for one-half of all murders, have not increased despite an increase in violent crimes. Proponents of gun control counter that that is not good enough. Many believe that if the availability of guns to the general public were curbed, then the number of handgun deaths would decrease, which would undeniably be a better solution for stunting the growth of the overall crime rate, rather than increasing the amount of weapons for law enforcement.

Another argument of gun control opponents is the effect of such a law on the constitutional right to bear arms guaranteed to the people. It is argued that although that is true, there exists a more fundamental principle that must be adhered to above all. That is the

right of every individual in the United States to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." With the number of firearms so easily accessible to the public, legally as well as illegally, almost 10,000 people were deprived of their rights by death by handguns (this figure is according to Handgun Control, Inc., FBI in 1979). At the time the Constitution was written, the right to bear firearms was a necessity to protect our newly acquired freedom from English rule. Today, we don't need to arm ourselves to protect our freedom. We have hired officials such as policemen and soldiers to protect us. Granted, "Guns don't kill people, People kill people," but if the guns weren't around, it would be much harder for people to kill people.

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## Keeping Abreast

Detest having to air dirty linen in public, but word has it that some are putting in extra-long hours in the infamous laundry room...

... Following pressures of a tough semester comes difficulties of Erev Pesach being on Shabbat—soooooo, time for a ROAD TRIP!!! Scheduled for Great Adventure (yes, we will have to pass Secaucus; no, passports are not needed)—hmmm, maybe whaling wasn't such a bad idea, after all... Is it true that Hinckley had written to several students in the WD vowing to make himself known to them? ... O.K., that *was* in terrible taste... Welcome back to all those who thought a mid-semester vacation a good idea, and for whom a variety of classes were disrupted—don't feel *too* guilty, though... (T)his (M)ay come as a surprise to some, but (T)here (M)ight be some among us who (T)ry (M)uch too hard (T)o (M)aster the art of serenity by using a mantra... Some folks, believe it or not, even feel it necessary to shout to the world how

wonderfully appealing they are!

... The denuded walls of the SG office in the MD can be blamed on the Phantom Wall Poster Puller-Downer, who, though claiming moral indignation, hasn't a leg to stand on... The lockers visible on the lower floors of 30 West, by the way, *really* belong to LAS, but are simply being held in trust for us by the good fellows of Touro Law... Did anybody notice that the Red Cross Bloodmobile was really just a painted-over Hinenimobile which was simply a refurbished Mitzvahmobile which was nothing more than a slightly redone Lincoln Square Torahvan? Didn't think so... New James Caan flick originally supposed to star famous former T.C. employee—that plan quickly scrapped by T-men...

A belated Mazal Tov to Marty Kahan upon his 3rd wedding anniversary... Mazal Tov to Rabbi Danny Lander and the entire Lander family upon his recent marriage...

Attention Space Cadets, Your Leader Has Arrived!

## OUR MAYOR—cont. from pg. 3

little, too?"

Q. Why doesn't the city cease the practice of having parades, seeing as how they are a nuisance to many and a mess to clean up after?

A. "Are you crazy? I love parades! I go to them all—St. Patty's, Israel Day, Puerto Rican Day, 369th Regiment Parade—parades you haven't even *heard* of! Everybody loves parades—well, maybe people who live on Fifth Avenue don't, and I sympathize, but the rest of us do, and we'll continue having them!"

Q. What are your feelings about the Guardian Angels?

A. "Many people like them—in a way, so do I." But I can't award them civilian hero

awards, like they want me to, that's something the 3 N.Y.C. police departments (regular police, housing, and transity) do. We've given the Angels a memo-of-understanding to sign, and if they do they'll have a special status, but so far they've refused to sign.

Although many other questions arose (Yankee Stadium repair bills: "We'll sue whomever, whenever, we can"; Movie industry in N.Y.C.: "We now rival Hollywood, over \$500 million in revenue for city in 1980"; Koch's perception of himself, politically: "A liberal with sanity, not an easy thing, mind you!") limitations of space prevent listing them all.

## THE DEAN—cont. from pg 7

mandatory section on applications, should be well written and cogently argued. This is your chance to stand out, your opportunity to impress the Committee on Admissions, to let yourself be seen as a unique individual.

By early November you should also meet with the instructors who will write your letters of recommendation. Give them a biographical statement, describing your activities and experiences. Of course, stamped and addressed

envelopes should accompany all recommendation forms.

Mail out your applications by early December. Check to see that the recommendations have also been forwarded. The general consensus is that early applications can give you an edge, particularly at schools with a rolling admissions system. In January it is time to contact the law schools of your choice and inquire whether your dossier is complete.

Robert Goldschmidt  
Dean of Students

## SECRETS

continued from page 1

Federation of Jewish Philanthropies more acutely aware of the feelings of their clientele, often elderly people.

Besides the benefits to those in the social services field, the program looks to be of benefit for a range of other professions, including teachers working for the public school system. Such individuals often require an M.A. or just some extra credits before becoming eligible for promotion or a raise in salary. It is hoped that they will take advantage of the new Herzliah program, which can be custom-tailored to virtually any time schedule.

Though the focus of the

courses will be on Modern History, the curriculum does offer broad inquiries into Hebrew and Yiddish literature and Jewish philosophy. Dr. Monty Penkower assures (threatens?) that the courses "will be comprehensive and rigorous." Dr. Penkower, associated with the Seminary program, will also be in charge of a somewhat related academic conference to be held later this year. Designed to study the acculturation of Iranian, Israeli, and Russian peoples, the conference will be attended by groups of professors and sociologists. The conference is expected to show and help

promote the serious manner in which the M.A. program is viewed by professionals.

If the Master's program works out as well as the Jewish People's University of the Air, all will be satisfied. The U. of the Air is a radio series sponsored by Touro and the Herzliah Seminary. The radio programs offer courses such as Yiddish Poetry and Jewish Values and American Social Issues. Broadcast over station WEVD, the series is produced and directed by Jacob Katzman. These popular radio courses are delivered by experts well-known in their respective fields.

## A MORAL MESSAGE

continued from p. 1

They die every day, and their death is final."

That's only one part of the problem, Rebbetzin Jungreis feels. "Eight years ago when HINENI started, intermarriage was spoken of only in whispers. Now, parents are saying openly, 'as long as they are happy,' or 'what can I do, I can't cut off my own son?' And, of course, ANTI-SEMITISM is a factor as never before. Every time Jewish students in Montreal try to hold a meeting, they are stopped, because the Arab prescence on campus agitates, and forces the authorities to stop the meeting. They buy up Department chairs in Universities, while Jewish students are apathetic.

"The worst part of the problem is Jewish self-hate. When anti-Semitism comes along, it's because of Sin'at Chinam, Jew hating Jew without any reason. When

redemption comes, it will come because of Ahavat Chinam, the love of Jews for fellow Jews. What happened with the Belzer is small stuff compared to what happens in our schools and our synagogues. It happened with Belz because it happens in Jewish communities everywhere. And yet, on Purim we wear masks to tell G-D that no matter what a Jew looks like on the outside, he is still a Jew on the inside."

"The solution is to understand who we are, what we are as a nation, and what our responsibilities are. When G-D communicated to us through the Prophets, it was easy. Today, we live in a corrosive materialistic society. But G-D spoke to us five times in this generation, and we didn't listen. Do not misinterpret this, but when holocausts happen, it is because we have broken our covenant with G-D. It is no

coincidence that Hitler happened in the center of assimilation.

"Throughout history, a choice was given to the Jewish People, and we passed the test. We gave up everything for our religion. We would give up our children for religion. Today, for the first time in history, Jews would rather convert than give up. Anyone who opens up the Torah would understand why we would do such things for our religion. But we don't want to believe it. We want to be free to do as we wish. We want to be religious our way. You and I are Jews who understand that it can only be G-D's way.

"Monuments and Holocaust studies are nothing new. The way to memorialize those who died in ashes is to live for them. To study for every million who can no longer study, to keep Shabbat for every little one who wasn't given the chance. That is our challenge."

## ISRAEL PROGRAM

continued from page 2

workers," said Jay Shapiro, Shaliach for Community Liaison of the Israel Aliyah Center of North American. "A number of former participants from past programs have, in fact, returned to work in Israel after graduation, largely owing

to successful social and professional adaptation to Israel." The deadline for applicants is May 1st.

For full information on the program, candidates may contact: Professor Stephen Kane, Dept. of Cooperative

Education, Northeastern University, Huntington Ave. Boston, Mass. 02115, or Jay Shapiro, Office of Community Liaison, Israel Aliyah Center, 515 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y., 10022; 212-752-0600 or your nearest Israel Aliyah Center.

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## DINING—from pg 4

the murky darkness of New York City, I couldn't help but notice another la difference (my waistline). Nonetheless, when you decide to dine out at La Difference, I recommend that you call ahead and make reservations in advance. Restaurant hours during the week are 12 to 11. Bon appetite!